

**LIFESAVING SYSTEMS CORP.**

220 ELSBERRY RD. • APOLLO BEACH, FL 33572

PHONE 813/645-2748 • FAX 813/645-2768

EMAIL info@lifesavingsystems.com • www.lifesavingsystems.com

October 26, 2006

Subject: SURFACE SAR HARNESS - - Improper Assembly of the Chest Strap & V-Ring Adjustor
LSC #204 Surface Swimmer Harness (NSN 4240-01-327-6185)

Attention: ATC Jim Furlong (james.furlong@navy.mil)

DISCUSSION

It has been identified that the chest strap V-Ring for the above noted harness has been improperly installed at the factory. The improper assembly is confirmed to exist on the last two production lots and may exist on prior production pieces. The improper installation allows the V-Ring to release one side of the chest strap if the swimmer is hoisted directly by the chest strap V-Ring. This may result in serious injury to the swimmer.

MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDATION

All swimmers and associated personnel should be notified to immediately terminate hoisting by the chest strap V-Ring until the harness has been inspected in accordance with the inspection criteria provided with this notice and one of the following corrective actions has been completed:

1. Passing of inspection, harnesses complying with the proper assembly method may be returned to service and utilized for lifts via the chest strap V-Ring.
2. Failure of inspection, harnesses failing the inspection criteria should be removed from service and repaired/replaced with properly assembled units prior to resuming lifts via the chest strap V-Ring.

INSPECTION CRITERIA

Provided with this notice are two images of a properly assembled Surface Swimmer Harness.

- Image #1 depicts the entire assembly.
- Image #2 is a side view of the V-Ring and Chest Strap Lacing.

Both images display the correct assembly and lacing procedure for the harness.

Correct Installation:

The proper installation will have the fixed/sewn end of the chest strap attached to the center bar of the v-ring. This results with the point of the "V" pointing to the wearer's left side.

Incorrect Installation (repair or remove from service):

The incorrectly assembled harnesses have been identified to have the fixed/sewn end of the chest strap attached to the V-Ring at the end opposite from the point of the "V", and the point will be pointing to the wearer's right side.

The above details are provided to assist in the notification and identification of the noted defect. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned for additional assistance & remedy for the fleet.

Respectfully,

Sam Maness
President